

Serial No. 09/890,511

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In the Specification

On page 4, replace lines 5-7, as follows:

The object is achieved with the aid of a panel system of the present invention, ~~with the features of the first claim. Advantageous developments follow from the sub-claims.~~

On page 6, replace lines 28-32 as follows:

A panel of the present invention ~~as-claimed~~ therefore comprises such means on the longitudinal and/or transverse sides that two panels may thereby be connected positively to one another. A positive connection within the meaning of the claim is present when two panels assembled on a level surface may by virtue of

On page 8, replace lines 15-20 as follows:

The aforementioned embodiment represents a simple and reliably operating example of a the panel system of the present invention ~~as-claimed~~. The lug is in particular provided on the longitudinal or transverse side of the panel on which a tongue is accommodated. The longitudinal or transverse side of the panel that comprises a groove then incorporates at least one channel.